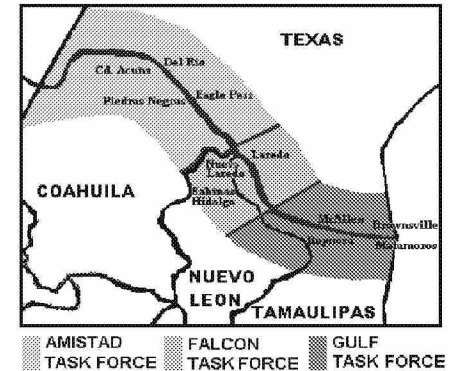


BORDER 2020

2013-2014 Action Plan

for the TX-COAH-TAMP-NL Regional Workgroup

June 3, 2014



The **Four-State Regional Workgroup** is the most complex of the four regional workgroups, because of its geographical expanse and the number of municipalities. The region includes parts of three states and a total of at least 29 municipios on the Mexican side, and 168 cities and towns on the U.S. side. Recognizing this, the workgroup divided itself into three geographically based Task Forces—Amistad, Falcon, and Gulf, each of which has established subject-specific committees related to its priority concerns.

During the first half of 2012, the various committees have held meetings to discuss initial priorities for the Border 2020 program, and a regional meeting of leaders was held in June to develop a consensus of priorities at the task force and regional workgroup levels.

Regional Priorities

1. Improve air quality through the following approaches:
 - a. Analyze emissions and emission sources in specific airsheds
 - b. Engage in both road-paving and reforestation (using native species)
 - c. Establish or improve vehicle inspection programs in those cities where the respective federal governments require them
 - d. Increase energy efficiency at the consumption level and the use of renewable energy at all appropriate levels
2. Improve water quality by taking the following actions:
 - a. Evaluate the portion of the Rio Grande watershed that is in the region
 - b. Reduce contamination by providing wastewater treatment to unserved communities in the watershed
 - c. Improving the existing treatment facilities by applying the most effective technologies and providing training to operators
 - d. Develop more applications for the re-use of water
 - e. Reduce non-native species in the water bodies
 - f. Continue and expand environmental education efforts such as “Adopt the River” and “Day of the River”

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3. Address problems of improper waste disposal:
 - a. Develop comprehensive plans for solid waste management, including special wastes (such as sludge from wastewater treatment plants, scrap tires, and used electronic products) and hazardous wastes (residues from pesticides, extraction of fossil fuels, and medical facilities), looking for economic/productive uses of wastes whenever possible
 - b. Expand environmental education related to waste issues
 - c. Close and remediate open dumps wherever required by regulation
4. Assure that each project includes a component of environmental education (such as teacher training or building an environmental library), at least one indicator related to public health, and inspection and surveillance

Individual Task Force Priorities

Amistad Task Force

1. Reduction of energy consumption in buildings and street lighting
2. Increased use of alternate and renewable energy sources (such as landfill gas and solar energy)
3. Construction of sanitary landfills
4. Attention to waste disposal in gas drilling operations
5. Continuing attention to emergency response
6. Harmonization of protocols related to coal mining and remediation and to petroleum materials
7. Improvement of vehicle inspection programs in Coahuila
8. Joint programs in communication and environmental education, and development of an environmental educators group

Falcon Task Force

1. Re-use of treated water
2. Monitoring of drilling operations in the Eagle Ford Shale
3. Finalizing the cross-border contingency plan

Gulf Task Force

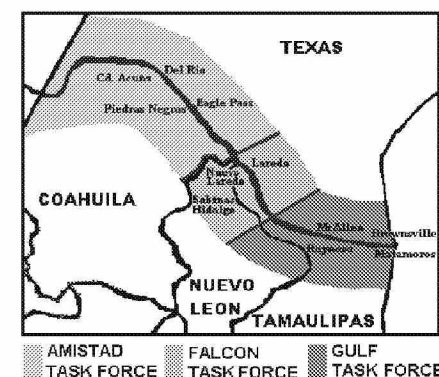
1. Improvement of water-related infrastructure, and increased attention to water conservation and re-use
2. Increased recycling
3. Continuing capacity-building at the local, state, and federal levels of government
4. Technical exchanges, including best practices and lessons learned

Border 2020

2013-2014 Action Plan Grid for the Four-State Regional Workgroup

Legend:

	Activity covers at least two task force areas
	Gulf Task Force
	Falcon Task Force
	Amistad Task Force



GOAL # 1: Reduce Air Pollution

Project #	Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Anticipated Cost	Source(s) of funding	Points of Contact	2013-2014 Target	Progress Towards Target
Objective 1: By 2020, reduce the number of vehicles operating in the border region that do not comply with the respective vehicle emissions standards, and reduce vehicle emissions at ports-of-entry through anti-idling and other feasible measures							
1.1.01	Continue to develop Coahuila's vehicle inspection program, partly in consultation with Texas regarding the latter's experience.	SEMA (Coahuila), COMIMSA, Municipio de Piedras Negras, Municipio de Acuña, TCEQ	\$700,000	SEMA Coahuila	Miguel Ángel Leal Reyes (SEMA) miguel.reyes@sema.gob.mx	Inspect 40% of the vehicles in Acuña, Piedras Negras, Monclova, Saltillo, and Ramos Arizpe.	Coahuila initiated vehicle inspections in border cities in June 2012. SEMA signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the TCEQ in May 2013; specific forms of collaboration are being negotiated.

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Objective 5: By 2020, reduce emissions and associated impacts, through energy efficiency and/or alternative/renewable energy projects

1.5.01	Implement a competitive grants program aimed at local governments, dedicated to improvements in energy efficiency.	University of Texas at Austin, LBJ School	\$175,000	EPA and TCEQ	David Eaton (LBJ School), eaton@mail.utexas.edu	Complete all projects by August 2013	UT issued RFP in October 2012. An independent committee reviewed applications and recommended six projects that were then funded by UT—two cities, an irrigation district, and three school districts—in early 2013. All six projects were completed by July 2013.
1.5.02	Initiate Phase 2 of the State Climate Action Plan for Coahuila (PEAC): Quantification of the mitigation policies selected in Phase 1.	Coahuila State Government and BECC	\$275,000	BECC	Tomás Balarezo, BECC	CICC is installed Integrated Technical Working Groups (TWG) and the Advisory Group (AG), Consultant hired. Local Coordinator and local experts recruited	Develop a document with quantitative measurements of reductions in GHG emissions from the selected Mitigation Policies (MP), the impacts of these MP in local Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employment and per capita income and amount of funds to finance new MP.
1.5.03	Initiate Phase 2 of the State Climate Action Plan for Tamaulipas (PEAC): Quantification of the mitigation public policies selected in Phase 1.	Tamaulipas State Government and BECC	\$151,000	BECC	Tomás Balarezo, BECC	State strategy work is redesigned. CICC is installed. Integrated Technical Working Groups (TWG) and the Advisory Group (AG). Consultant hired	Develop a document of Selected Mitigation Policies through an open and participatory process.
1.5.04	Research the potential for harnessing wind power for electricity in Tamaulipas.	SEMARNAT and SEDUMA		SEMARNAT will seek	Delfino.ramirez@semarnat.tamaulipas.g	Conduct research and explore business opportunities	A forum was held in October 2012. No information available

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				funds	ob.mx		since then.
1.5.05	Research the potential for harnessing wind power for electricity generation in Nuevo León.	Secretaría de Desarrollo Sustentable de Nuevo León	\$10,000	Mexican federal funds/CONAC YT	Norma Rangel (SDS, Nuevo León), normaaangel@gmail.com	Establish wind monitors in selected areas of the state by the end of 2013, and begin generating wind maps in 2014.	SDS continues to search for funding.
1.5.06	Construct and operate a facility that extracts methane gas from the Nuevo Laredo landfill and burns it to generate electricity for the municipality.	Municipio de Nuevo Laredo and Setasa (Servicios de Tecnología Ambiental S.A.)	\$3.5 million	Private sector; a company will be selected and then will build and operate the plant, selling the electricity to CFE and giving a portion of revenues from carbon credits to the municipio.	Sergio Martínez López sergiomartinezlopez@hotmail.com	Have the facility in full operation by the end of 2014.	A feasibility study was completed 2008 with funding from USAID. Issuance of a tender for construction is pending (the municipio needs to obtain the property title).
1.5.07	Implement a pilot program to diagnose the existing Mexican fleet of heavy-duty commercial trucks in cross-border trade in the Laredo -Nuevo Laredo area, identify retrofit technologies that would reduce emissions, and share information on those technologies, their costs, and suppliers at a binational forum.	SEMARNAT and the Municipio of Nuevo Laredo	\$50,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Ing. Eduardo Olivares (SEMARNAT-Clean Transportation Program), eduardo.olivares@semarnat.gob.mx , and Osvaldo Valencia (Municipio de Nuevo Laredo—Ecology Program), valencia_osvaldo@hotmail.com	Complete the project by the end of 2013.	The final report generated information to raise awareness to the transportation companies on the issue of emissions of diesel. Information of 2,756 trucks and 456 companies had. 50% of the sample trucks are 2000 or earlier model, the trucks are aged over 13 years, and 84% are 2006 model or earlier, aged 7 years or more.
1.5.08	Establish an air quality monitoring network in the areas of Piedras Negras-Nava, Acuña, Sabinas, and Saltillo,	SEMA (Coahuila), Municipio de Piedras Negras, Acuña, Nava,	1,400,000	SEMA Coahuila	Miguel Ángel Leal Reyes (SEMA Coahuila)	Have air quality monitoring network in operation for Piedras	SEMA has begun working with local officials to include these

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	Coahuila.	Sabinas, Saltillo			miguel.reyes@sema. ob.mx	Negras-Nava Region, Acuña, Sabinas Region and Saltillo Region, Coahuila	projects in the plans of the applicable "Metropolitan Zones".
1.5.09	Apply retrofit technologies to public buildings in Piedras Negras and Acuña, Coahuila that will reduce energy consumption.	SEMA (Coahuila), Municipio de Piedras Negras y Municipio de Acuña	\$500,000	SEMA Coahuila	Olga Rumayor (SEMA Coahuila) olga.rumayor@sema. gob.mx	Involve municipal agencies through a series of workshops and select at least 10 buildings to pilot retrofit technologies.	The project is still in the planning phase, and will be proposed to the BECC to obtain support.
1.5.10	Design and implement vehicle emission verification programs or campaigns in Tamaulipas.	SEDUMA	To be defined	SEDUMA/ SEMARNAT	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas	Have vehicle verification program in the border area of the state by end of 2014	Pilot program focused on the state-owned fleet was initiated in early 2013.
1.5.11	Promote and encourage the use and exploitation of renewable energy sources and alternative energy potential in Tamaulipas.	SEDUMA	To be defined	SEDUMA/ SEMARNAT	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas .gob.mx	Prepare action plan for nine wind power projects and state's strategic energy program	Baseline information is being collected.
1.5.12	Strengthen Tamaulipas' atmospheric monitoring system.	SEDUMA	Por definirse	SEDUMA/ EPA/COCEF	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas .gob.mx	By 2014, the system will operate at 100% with programmatic consistency standards	8 municipalities of the State and have the equipment for air monitoring of PM10 (Matamoros, Reynosa, Laredo Nvo, Victoria, Mante, Tampico, Madero and Altamira). Currently only 3 of these eight municipalities are operating the system of air monitoring (Nvo Laredo, Victoria, Tampico)
1.5.13	Implementation of a environmental management system as a strategy for energy efficiency in Tamaulipas.	SEDUMA/Municipios	\$ 100,000	SEDUMA/ EPA/COCEF	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas .gob.mx	By 2014, train in collaboration with ICLEI and INECC 100% of the border municipalities	State trained 16 municipalities from the border region and the San Fernando Valley region, with an attendance of approximately 100

							people, the workshop was held in Reynosa.
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Goal # 2: Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water

Project #	Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Anticipated Cost	Source(s) of funding	Points of Contact	2013-2014 Target	Progress Towards Target
General							
2.0.01	Build and begin operation of a desalination plant in Nuevo León, using renewable energy as the energy source for the plant.	Servicios de Agua y Drenaje de Monterrey (SADM, Nuevo León's water utility)		SADM, BECC, and National Water Commission	Norma Rangel (SDS, Nuevo León), normaarangel@gmail.com y Carlos Avila, carlos.avila@sadm.gob.mx	Have the plant in operation by the end of 2014.	Project Canceled
2.0.02	Organize a "Water Awareness Summit" to educate the public in the Lower Rio Grande Valley about where their water comes from, how the planning process works, what the outlook is, and the importance of conservation.	State Representative Eddie Lucio III, TCEQ, cities and their water utilities, the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority, and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council	\$10,000-15,000	Local funding efforts/sponsors	Claudia Lozano (TCEQ) claudia.lozano@tceq.texas.gov	Hold the conference in early 2013	The first Water Awareness Summit was held in February 2013. More than 200 people attended and expressed interest in making the event annual. A second Summit was held in March 2014, with approximately 300 attendees, and a third Summit will be held in early 2015.
Objective 2: Help drinking water and wastewater service providers in the border region to implement sustainable infrastructure practices to reduce operating costs, improve energy efficiency, use water efficiently and adapt to climate change.							
2.2.01	Provide teacher training workshop(s) and/or on-site facilitators to implement educational water quality monitoring events in conjunction with 2012/13 World Water Monitoring	Texas Partnership for Water Education (TPWE): EPA, WEAT, TAWWA, Scout Troops, ISDs,	Funding needed varies with # of participants	Various funding possibilities will be explored	Karen Bick, EPA, Region 6 (214) 665-7539 bick.karen@epa.gov	Teachers &/or students, as well as interested community members will have identified monitoring site. Sampling results	Awaiting information

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	Challenge:	informal environmental education (EE) providers	Testing Kits \$25/ 30 individuals/ site.			are submitted to TPWE's WWMC Program Coordinator.	
2.2.02	Promote energy management practices among Texas water and wastewater utilities by conducting quarterly meetings on energy management planning, training on a pumping-system assessment tool, and on-site energy efficiency assessments (key cities include Laredo, Roma, Mission, Agua Specialty Utility District, Edinburg, McAllen, Pharr, Weslaco, Mercedes, Harlingen, and Brownsville).	Partner with a university to conduct meetings, trainings and on-site energy assessment involving engineering students. 2012 partners are the Texas Manufacturing Assistance Centers at the University of Texas at Arlington and the University of Texas Pan American.	Funding sought: \$75,000/yr or \$150,000	Various funding possibilities will be explored	David Reazin, EPA Region 6 (214) 665-7501	Hold quarterly meetings to develop energy management plan and benchmark energy use and costs, 1 PSAT training, and 2 on-site assessments.	Awaiting information
2.2.03	Organize a workshop in Laredo for water utilities and the restaurant industry to discuss best practices related to abatement of discharges of fats, oils, and grease (will also involve Nuevo Laredo).	City of Laredo water utility, Webb County, and Nuevo Laredo	\$23,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Karla Robles (City of Laredo Utilities) krobles@ci.laredo.tx.us	Hold the workshop by the spring of 2013 and then follow-up meetings with utilities to discuss implementation of FOG programs in the summer and fall of 2013.	The project was completed in January 2014. Laredo Utilities organized a binational workshop in March 2013, presenting "best management practices" with regard to management of fats, oils and grease. More than 350 people, including representatives from the maquiladora sector in Nuevo Laredo and restaurants in both cities, attended the event. Laredo Utilities then coordinated two follow-up meetings in August and December 2013, at which participants shared their experience in applying the practices, and also

							produced a 7-minute video about FOG management, for use in education of commercial establishments. Out of 22 establishments that participated in the original workshop, 14 decreased their amount of FOG generation more than 50%.
2.2.04	Conduct training for small businesses in the Reynosa area on best practices related to discharges of fats, oils, and grease (will include before and after measures).	Municipio of Reynosa	\$16,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Mauricio Chalons (Municipio of Reynosa), 899 263-3798, ecologiareynosa@hotmail.com	Organize a workshop or training event(s).	Project canceled.
2.2.05	Implement a public campaign to increase awareness of problems of non-point-source pollution in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, through signs posted on roadways and at public facilities, messages on a school district television station, presentations at numerous public events and meetings, and newsletters of various organizations.	Fourteen cities in the Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV) that are members of the Texas Pollution Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Task Force, Texas A&M Kingsville, school districts, and NGOs	\$30,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Javier Guerrero (Lower Rio Grande Valley TPDES Stormwater Task Force, Texas A&M University-Kingsville), 956- 457-3023 jguer0351@aol.com	Project Completed by end of 2013.	Workshops were done with the Cities of Harlingen, Kingsville, San Benito, La Feria, Palm Valley, Primera, Weslaco, Donna, Alamo, San Juan, La Joya, Brownsville, Palmview, and Mission. A total of 104 signs were installed by those cities at various locations, and those locations were GPS'd.
2.2.06 {Sub-Obj. 3a}	Implement a binational Lower Rio Grande Water Quality Initiative (from Falcon to the Gulf) that characterizes the state of the river, develops a strategic plan to improve environmental conditions, and proposes a monitoring plan to document progress.	TCEQ, EPA, IBWC, CONAGUA, and federal, state, and local government agencies		TCEQ, EPA, IBWC, and federal, state, and local government agencies	Kelly Holligan (TCEQ), 512-239-2369, Kelly.holligan@tceq.texas.gov	Establish the collaborative partnership by early 2013, and make substantive progress on objectives by the end of 2014.	Terms of reference were developed that serve as the framework used by participating entities in the collaboration. In February and July 2013, TCEQ hosted training sessions on water quality modeling software (QUAL-TX and LAQUAL) for Mexican agency and

							EPA staff
2.2.07 [Sub-obj] 2b)	Install/upgrade new sewer lines connected to Nuevo Laredo's wastewater treatment plant to prevent contaminated discharges to the Rio Grande.	COMAPA and Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	\$5,000,000	North American Development Bank (NADB)	<p>Claudia López Aguilar (Comisión Municipal de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado - COMAPA) claudialopez@comapanuevolaredo.gob.mx</p> <p>New Manager CP Delfino González Muñoz Tel: 867-8900900 dgcelfino@hotmail.com dianarigal@comapanuevolaredo.gob.mx</p>	Complete the project by December 2014.	<p>BECC certified the project in September 2012. COMAPA will complete the construction of four sewer collectors to the wastewater treatment plant by August 2013 and will work with CONAGUA on securing funding to address sewer discharges (about 280,000 GD) from La Joya Creek to the Rio Grande. COMAPA and the municipio are in the process of signing an agreement with the property owner to allow crews to repair the discharge point from La Joya creek since it is on private property. Along with this effluent discharge, COMAPA has identified five discharge points. Here is a breakdown on the work being conducted on these collectors:</p> <p>More than 230,000 gallons per day from the 5 de febrero collector have been eliminated and 40% of the repairs have been completed for the second phase</p>

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							<p>90% of the work to repair the Guatemala collector has been finished. The total amount (420,000 GD) that is currently discharging should be eliminated by May 2014.</p> <p>Work is underway to rehabilitate the America, Anahuac and Iturbide collectors, which are discharging about 1.2 MGD. All sewer discharges should be eliminated by November 2014.</p>
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Objective 3: Work binationally to identify and reduce surface water contamination in transboundary waterbodies or watersheds.

2.3.01	Develop and produce region-specific supplemental materials necessary to produce a <i>Waters to the Sea</i> - Rio Grande module. (<i>Place-based education with comprehensive watershed focus</i>).	Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE)- Hamline University. Harte Research Institute @ A&M- Corpus Christi. EPA R6, WEAT, AWWA.	Approx \$100,000 in 2013 \$ 50,000 in 2014	Various funding possibilities will be explored	CGEE- Tracy Fredin Karen Bick, EPA, Region 6 (214) 665-7539 bick.karen@epa.gov	Recruit and establish an advisory board, produce videos and other materials, identify one or two ISDs to pilot program, and conduct training for at least 25 teachers in 2014.	Exploratory discussions were underway in 2012. No information since then.
2.3.02	Conduct feasibility studies for wastewater treatment plants in the municipalities of Hidalgo and Guerrero, Coahuila.	CEAS Coahuila, SEMA Coahuila	\$15,000	CNA, Coahuila	Alejandra Carrera (SEMA Coahuila), alejandra.carrera@sema.gob.mx	Complete the studies by early 2014	CEAS has completed the feasibility studies and is making efforts to implement water management programs in those municipalities.
2.3.03	Design and implement local public conservation campaigns and land conservation agreements for Rio San Rodrigo and Arroyo Las Vacas.	SEMA Coahuila, Municipio de Piedras Negras and Municipio de Acuña	\$400,000	Coahuila will fund first part and will be seeking	Alejandra Carrera (SEMA Coahuila), alejandra.carrera@sema.gob.mx	Begin implementing the campaigns and conclude the land conservation agreements by the end of 2014.	SEMA obtained funding from the EPA through the BECC in November 2013 to restore and conserve the Arroyo

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				funding for the rest			Las Vacas. SEMA has developed partnerships with TCEQ, Ciudad Acuña, local academic institutions, and UT Austin, and is finalizing the workplan. The project will promote awareness and take actions to improve the ecosystem of the arroyo.
2.3.04	Implement a program to remove invasive plants in the Rio Grande.	SEMA Coahuila, CONANP, Profauna	\$85,000	SEMA Coahuila, CONANP, Profauna – and will seek other funding sources	Alejandra Carrera (SEMA Coahuila) alejandra.carrera@sema.gob.mx	By the end of 2014, increase the invasive species plant removal program in the Rio Grande.	No progress yet.
2.3.05	Organize a regional workshop to disseminate “best practices” related to water conservation policy, programs (such as EPA’s Water Sense), and public education, and implement enhanced programs in at least one pair of sister cities.	City of Laredo, EPA, TCEQ, TX Water Development Board, Piedras Negras Technological Institute	\$6,000	City of Laredo, EPA, TCEQ, and local sponsors	Miguel A. Pescador mpescador@ci.laredo.tx.us Debora Browning EPA, Region 6 browning.debora@epa.gov	Hold a regional workshop in Laredo by spring 2013, and implement a new campaign in two sister cities by 2014. Enlist 10 new WaterSense Partners.	Workshop was hosted by Laredo in March 2013. More than 100 persons attended. No new WaterSense Partners by mid-July 2013.

Goal # 3: Promote Materials Management, Waste Management and Clean Sites

Project #	Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Anticipated Cost	Source(s) of funding	Points of Contact	2013-2014 Target	Progress Towards Target
Objective 1: By 2020, increase local and state-level knowledge and experience in the area of sustainable material management practices.							
3.1.01	Link and promote the Mexican federal program “Green Schools” in all three Mexican states in the region and explore	SEMARNAT/Tamaulipas and state agencies in Tamaulipas, Nuevo	??	SEMARNAT	Delfino Ramirez (SEMARNAT/Tamaulipas), Delfino.ramirez@semarna	Reach 150 schools in the 3 Mexican States by July 2013.	Program very successful in Tamaulipas--135

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	possible use in Texas.	León, and Coahuila			t.tamaulipas.gob.mx	Hold an information exchange meeting w/Texas 2014	schools are registered in the Green School Program, of which 33 are in Nuevo Laredo, 50 in Reynosa and 9 in Matamoros. Information not available from other states.
3.1.02	Design and implement a bilingual campaign against illegal dumping in Cameron County, Texas, using billboards, newspapers, and workshops at schools.	Cameron County and the Valley Proud Environmental Council	\$10,000	Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, TCEQ	Marcie Oviedo (Lower Rio Grande Development Council), moviedo@lrgvdc911.org , (956) 682-3481	Finish the project by the end of 2013.	The project has been completed.
3.1.03	Through purchase of equipment, enhance the recycling programs in three local jurisdictions and composting operations in two jurisdictions.	The Cities of Pharr, Mission, McAllen, and Mercedes, and the Town of Bayview	\$160,000	Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, TCEQ, and individual local government	Marcie Oviedo (Lower Rio Grande Development Council), moviedo@lrgvdc911.org , (956) 682-3481	Finish the five separate but related projects by the end of 2013.	As of mid-July 2013, four of the five entities had completed their projects; the project in McAllen is in progress.
3.1.04	Establish an environmental organization to develop environmental awareness and clean-up programs in Nuevo Laredo.	Keep Laredo Beautiful, Keep America Beautiful, and the Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	\$5,000	The Gateway Rotary Club and Keep America Beautiful	Ing. Marco Antonio Garza Delgado y Lic. María Guadalupe Herrera Rodríguez U.T. (Programa Zona Verde, Nuevo Laredo) Lynne Nava (Keep Laredo Beautiful), lnava1@ci.laredo.tx.us	Recruit reps of non-profit organizations and school officials as members of a board of directors in 2013.	No progress toward target as of July 2013.
3.1.07	Expand a municipal recycling program started in March 2012 in Nuevo Laredo and currently consisting of placing public bins in parks, to include all elementary	Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	???	Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	Osvaldo Valencia (Municipio de Nuevo Laredo—Ecology	Install the bins at all elementary schools in 2013 and start	Environmental education conferences were resumed at city elementary schools in

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	schools in Nuevo Laredo.				Program) valencia_osvaldo@hotmail.com	relevant environmental education programs for students.	February 2013.
3.1.08	Extend Tamaulipas' environmental management system program (SIMA) to private institutions, schools, and shops.	SEDUMA	\$ 300,000	EPA/SEDUMA/SEMA RNAT	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas.gob.mx	Reach out to 100% of the border cities	The SIMA Program has been implemented in 30 schools in the municipality of Matamoros. State has invested 1 million 800 thousand pesos for replacement of furniture and equipment of high efficiency consumption of water and energy, clean energy production, waste recycling, rainwater collection and environmental education workshops. In the 2nd half of 2014 will support equipment (containers for medical waste and saving features) at 2 participants SIMA schools.
3.1.09	Redesign and extend coverage of the E-conexion Newsletter as strategy to share best practices.	SEDUMA	\$ 30,000	SEDUMA	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas (SEDUMA), seduma@tamaulipas.gob.mx	Extend the dissemination of the E-Conexion to 100% of the Tamaulipas municipalities	
Objective 2: By 2014, identify priority waste streams and by 2020 develop sustainable material management practices that strengthen their respective market value.							
3.2.01	Build capacity in scrap-tire management throughout the region.	Sustainable Development Secretariat, State of	\$35,000	EPA border grant	Norma Rangel Sevilla (SDS, Nuevo León), normaarangel@gmail.co	Prepare a "best practices" manual and perhaps hold a regional	Tire manual for tire recollection center

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		Nuevo León		through the BECC	m	workshop	
3.2.02	Use organic waste generated in Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo León to make compost and then apply it to agricultural uses and urban gardening.	Sustainable Development Secretariat, SEMARNAT- Municipio of Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo León	Mexican federal funds \$67,000	Municipio of Sabinas Hidalgo Nuevo León	Norma Rangel Sevilla (SDS, Nuevo León), normaarangel@gmail.com y chel1977@live.com.mx	By the end of 2014, compost 100% of organic waste collected by the municipality from large waste generators.	Project canceled
3.2.03	Assess the feasibility of using scrap tires for heavy-duty road-bed construction in Brownsville, Texas.	Texas A&M University – Kingsville	\$15,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Dr. Kim Jones kfkjdj00@tamuk.edu	assist rural communities to build capacity for sustainable waste management, including the development of scrap tire management and disposal plans for long term solutions of the regional scrap tire problem in rural communities	The project has been completed. This demonstration project safely disposed of 125 tire bales which is approximately 12,500 waste tires buried; also about 500 bales (50,000 waste tires) were disposed in the construction of one road in Brownsville
3.2.04	Develop a composting operation in Nuevo Laredo using sludge from the wastewater treatment plant and yard wastes, and apply the product in municipal parks as well as in homes (through sales to homeowners).	COMAPA and Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	\$30,000 ¿?	Municipio de Nuevo Laredo	Carlos Montiel Saeb (Comisión Municipal de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado—COMAPA) carlosmontielsaeb@hotmail.com	The program, including applications and sales, is expected to be in full operation by sometime in 2013.	Currently the compost is being applied to the germination of seeds and vegetables in the greenhouse of the municipio's Research and Environmental Education Center.
3.2.05	Implement a collection program for used electronic products in Reynosa, Tamaulipas.	Municipio of Reynosa	\$30,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Mauricio Chalons (Municipio of Reynosa), 899 263-3798 ecologiareynosa@hotmail.com	Promote sustainable routes to properly manage waste streams generated by electronic waste in Reynosa, Tamaulipas	Project completed by the end of 2013. The city collected about 27.7 tons of e-waste and sent for recycling.
3.2.06	Design and implement a state scrap tire management program that includes valuation.	SEDUMA	\$ 400,000	SEDUMA/S EMARTAN T/EPA	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas (SEDUMA), seduma@tamaulipas.gob.mx	Develop public policy and management plan for scrap tires	No progress on the project

3.2.07	Evaluate and take advantage of energy potential of waste in Matamoros landfills.	SEDUMA	\$ 300,000	SEDUMA/E PA	Ing. Humberto Rene Salinas seduma@tamaulipas.gob.mx	Complete action plan	No progress on the project
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Objective 3: By 2020, improve knowledge in every level of government (federal, state, local) to characterize and remediate contaminated sites.

3.3.01	Complete the remediation of old oxidation lagoons.	Municipio de Piedras Negras and State of Coahuila environmental agency (SEMA)	\$300,000	State of Coahuila environmental agency (SEMA)	Alfredo Lucero (Piedras Negras), aalm68@hotmail.com	Complete the remediation of the remaining 10.3 acres by the end of 2013, after which the municipality will develop a road extension to and a green area at the site.	Prior to 2012, 19.7 acres of the 30-acre site had been remediated. No new information available.
3.3.02	Clean up an old waste disposal site near the river banks of the Rio Grande in Eagle Pass.	City of Eagle Pass	\$3.5 million	City of Eagle Pass plus an additional funding source to be determined	Hector Chavez (Eagle Pass) hchavez@eaglepasstx.u	Finish the remediation in 2013, if supplementary funding can be identified, and then develop a green area on the site.	Remediation of a portion of the site was carried out prior to 2010. The city determined that it was a priority to identify additional funding for completion, but has not sought any funding since that time.
3.3.03	Establish a sustainable management plan for scrap tires in Piedras Negras, Coahuila.	SEMA, Municipio de Piedras Negras	\$400,000	¿?	Miguel Angel Leal (miguel.leal@sema.gob.mx)	Develop plan and place in full operation by the end of 2014	SEMA determined they need to perform a feasibility study on using coal pits as disposal sites for scrap tires.

Goal #4: Enhance Joint Preparedness for Environmental Response

Project #	Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Anticipated Cost	Source(s) of funding	Points of Contact	2013-2014 Target	Progress Towards Target
Objective 2: By 2020, at least eight (8) of the sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related activities such as certified training, risk analysis, and/or capacity building.							
4.2.01	Develop an emergency response plan for the maquiladoras in Brecha E-99 in Reynosa, Tamaulipas.	CAMPIR (Comite de Ayuda Mutua del Parque Industrial Reynosa) (Reynosa)	\$10,000	EPA border grant through the	Dr. Emilio Sonderegger Arriola emilio.sonderegger@l	???	Project canceled.

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		Industrial Park Mutual Aid Committee)		BECC	andisgyr.com		
4.2.02	Hold a second "knowledge exchange" on risk mapping for first responders on both sides of the Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas-Tamaulipas, for the purpose of identifying and gaining access to existing sources of data on hazmat storage and determining additional needs.	Fire departments from Texas and Mexican municipalities in the Gulf Task Force area, EPA, TCEQ, Civil Protección Tamaulipas and Mexico Civil Protección	\$30,000(?)	EPA and NORTHCOM	Paige Delgado (EPA), Delgado.paige@epa.gov EPA Region 6	Hold the exchange during the first half of 2013	A first exchange was held in July 2012. As of July 2013, the project is on hold because of the uncertainty of funding from NORTHCOM.
4.2.03	Hold a binational chemical-spill exercise at the World Trade Bridge between Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas and Laredo, Texas.	Civil Protection and Fire Department of Nuevo Laredo, Tamps., and the City of Laredo Fire Department	\$5,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Lic. Juan Ernesto Rivera Gómez (Civil Protección de Nuevo Laredo), proteccioncivilnuevolaredo@hotmail.com or ernestorivera5775@hotmail.com New Manager: Ing. Juan Ulises Ochoa Correa jochoa@nuevolaredo.gob.mx juan.u8a@hotmail.com Tel: 867-7124635 867-7128911	Hold the exercise after the Mexican federal government has approved a permit that allows hazardous waste to be transported on this bridge.	The U.S. Department of State issued a "presidential permit" in May 2014 for the use of the bridge for transport of hazardous materials, but the Mexican government is awaiting the completion of a flow study that CONAGUA is conducting in the Rio Grande before issuing its permit. If and when a Mexican permit is issued, local officials will organize a binational exercise. Still waiting for a date to finish this study and define next steps
4.2.04	Develop a cross-border contingency plan for the Solidarity Bridge, involving first responders from Colombia (Nuevo León), Nuevo Laredo (Tamaulipas), and Laredo (Texas), recognizing that Colombia, upstream from the other two cities, is	Civil Protección and fire departments for both Colombia and Nuevo Laredo, CODEFRONT, and the City of Laredo	\$5,000 -	EPA, COCEF, PROFEPA, and Protección Civil	Jorge Camacho (Protección Civil de Nuevo León). jorge.camacho@nuevoleon.gob.mx New officer: Juan	The objective of this training was to perform a simulation in the World Trade International Bridge (Bridge III) as part of the	Pending approval by the Government of Mexico to cross hazardous materials. Part of the process is to wait for a water quality

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	much smaller and yet shipments of hazardous materials in the area are currently directed to this bridge.				<p>Ulises Ochoa Correa jochoa@nuevolaredo.gob.mx juan.u8a@hotmail.com Tel: 867-712-4635 867-7128911</p>	training staff of Civil Protection in response to contingencies, taking into account that this port is in the process of authorization to cross hazardous materials eventhough it already has the infrastructure to handle these materials.	analysis performed by CONAGUA. In reality the materials cross by the Colombia Bridge in Nuevo Leon, but do not have the civil protection resources. In the case of an event, the assistance comes from Nuevo Laredo. Once the permit is released the drill can takes place.
4.2.05	Finish updating the 1998 Cross-Border Contingency Plan between the sister cities of Laredo, Texas and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, in order to improve emergency response communication and protocols.	Laredo Fire Department, Protección Civil de Nuevo Laredo, and CILA	No cost	City of Laredo and Nuevo Laredo	<p>Eloy Vega (City of Laredo Fire Department), evaga@ci.laredo.tx.us</p> <p>Ernesto Rivera (Protección Civil de Nuevo Laredo), proteccioncivilnuevolaredo@hotmail.com</p>	Hold new meetings of the staff of the two cities in 2013 in order to re-visit the language of the draft revision and possibly develop alternative language	Laredo officials met in May 2013 to make changes to one sentence in a draft of the new cross-border contingency plan that had been originally prepared in 2009. The changes were intended to clarify that Laredo could not send personnel across the border, because of security and liability concerns, but could assist in other ways. The revised agreement was been approved subsequently by Nuevo Laredo, but has been awaiting action by the Laredo City Council since that time.
4.2.06	Update and improve the cross-border contingency plans for emergency response for the sister-city pairs of (a) Eagle Pass, Texas and Piedras Negras, Coahuila and (b) Del Rio, Texas and Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila,	City of Eagle Pass, Municipio de Piedras Negras, City of Del Rio, Municipio de	\$130,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Briselda Duarte (Border Environment Cooperation Commission),	Complete new plans by the end of 2013.	The project was completed by the end of 2013. Under contract from the BECC, two workshops were

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	which will include risk analysis and development of risk maps.	Ciudad Acuña, BECC, and the Rio Grande Institute			bduarte@cocef.org and M.C. Monica de Jesus Pérez Morales (Consultoría y Servicios en Seguridad Industrial y Medio Ambiente, S.A. de C.V.)		organized in the first half of 2012 for staff from the two pairs of sister cities to discuss protocols and risks. After delays and the hiring of a new contractor, additional workshops were held in July 2013. In November of that year, the two sister-city pairs each signed a Memorandum of Cooperation for new cross-border contingency plans. Each community committed to providing resources and mutual aid in case of chemical accidents.
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Multi-Goal Projects

Project #	Description of Project	Collaborating Organizations	Anticipated Cost	Source(s) of funding	Points of Contact	2013-2014 Target	Progress Towards Target
Projects potentially related to some <u>combination</u> of air quality, water quality, water conservation, or waste management							
6.0.01	Organize educational campaigns featuring training sessions for health professionals, health students, and promotoras followed by community outreach in the Laredo and Harlingen areas in Texas, addressing how to reduce pre-natal and childhood exposure to pesticides, lead, solvents, second-hand tobacco, and diesel exhaust.	The University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio	\$50,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Claudia Miller, M.D., MillerCS@uthscsa.edu or steer@uthscsa.edu	Complete the project by the end of 2013.	Project completed -- through July 2013, trained 40 promotoras in the N. Laredo/ Laredo and Cameron County/ areas on the hazardous exposures in pregnancy and childhood and how to avoid these exposures. These promotoras have already provided

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							outreach to 400 families.
6.0.02	Conduct educational workshops/plays on the safe handling and disposal of pesticides for farm workers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas and in the Laredo area.	Migrants in Action – Weslaco, Texas	\$20,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Noemi Ochoa (Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs), nochoa@yahoo.com	Produce the EPA-written play “El Moscas y los Pesticidas” using students in two cities in the first half of 2013	Project under development, to be started on August 2014. The outcome expected is to provide capacity awareness to more than 2,000 people from South New Mexico and Texas.
6.0.03	Identify the sources of environmental health hazards through a “knowledge exchange” workshop and establish a binational database on epidemiological data related to these hazards.	Texas A&M Health Science Center, School of Rural Public Health, PAHO, BECC, HIDALGO COBINA, Hidalgo County Health Dept.	\$50,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Genny Carrillo (Texas A&M Health Science Center, School of Rural Public Health), gcarrillo@srph.tamhsc.edu	Hold the “knowledge exchange” workshop and establish the database by the end of 2013.	The project has been completed. A database on Environmental and Health issues was created with the US information.
6.0.04	Address children’s environmental health issues in Laredo, Texas and Webb County by surveying a sample of homes and identifying health risks, tracking reported exposures through selected hospitals and clinics, developing and implementing a public outreach campaign regarding the identified risks, and identifying and publicizing two relevant online courses available for physicians.	Laredo Health Department	\$50,000	EPA border grant through the BECC	Waldo Lopez (City of Laredo Health Department), wlopez@ci.laredo.tx.us	Complete the project by the end of 2014.	The project was completed in December 2013. More than 120 homes were surveyed to analyze the use of household hazardous waste materials, 469 individuals filled out online environmental home assessments, and 155 surveys were completed. The health department adapted a web-based diagnostic tool called Argus 1, which medical personnel can use to obtain information on testing procedures and

							treatment options based on specific symptoms, and trained more than 50 physicians on both sides of the border on its use. Laredo hopes to identify additional funds, to be able to replicate some of the activities in more geographical locations.
6.0.05	Organize an annual Environmental Summit for the public in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, in cooperation with State Representative Eddie Lucio III's office.	TCEQ, and cities in the Lower Rio Grande Valley	\$15,000	Local sponsors, EPA	Imelda Pena, TCEQ imelda.pena@tceq.texas.gov	Hold an Environmental Summit in fall of 2013 and fall of 2014.	The fourth annual Valley Environmental Summit was held in October 2013. An estimated 300 people attended. Their priority interests were illegal dumping, marine debris, and community cleanup programs. The fifth summit is scheduled for October 2014.
6.0.06	Organize an annual Environmental Summit for the public in Webb County, in cooperation with State Senator Judith Zaffirini's office.	TCEQ and the City of Laredo	\$15,000	Local sponsors, EPA	Carmen Ramirez, TCEQ carmen.ramirez@tceq.texas.gov	Hold an Environmental Summit fall of 2013.	The fourth annual Laredo Environmental Summit was held in October 2013, attended by more than 400 people. Speakers discussed recycling, energy efficiency, and water conservation. The next summit is being planned for October 2014.